Source of Expenditure

Foreign Tour have been undertaken with prior approval of Government of India for the interest of the National TB Control Programme. All travel costs etc. were borne by WHO.

Cases registered by FDCA against Chemists

3085. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered by FDCA against chemists, for selling sub-standard medicines and drugs, infringing the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules; and

(b) the names of chemists and manufacturers of such drugs and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Approach road to Tezpur University

3086. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the original road from Tezpur Town to the Campus of Tezpur (Central) University at Napam Tezpur in Assam has been washed away by floods which has created lot of difficulties to students, teachers, employees, etc.;

(b) whether it is also a fact that now the staff, students and teachers of the University have to come from town by another temporary road of very poor condition, every day, passing through an Army Cantonment area, with lots of difficulties; and

(c) if so, whether the University has submitted any proposal for the same to the Government of India and the Assam Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The University had submitted a proposal seeking permission

of the Government for utilisation of Rs.2.24 crores from out of the grants released under Non-lapsable Pool of Central Resources for the first phase of construction of an approachable new road to the University. The permission sought for has since been accorded.

Preference for private schools

3087. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that parents prefer private schools as compared to Government schools, for educating their children;

(b) if so, the reasons for such preference; and

(c) the details of steps being taken to make Government schools more attractive?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) NCERT has informed that no study has been conducted by NCERT to measure the fact that parents prefer private schools as compared to Government schools, for educating their children. However, rush for admission in selected public schools by a small percentage of parents is a common phenomena in urban and semi-urban areas. The reasons may be better facilities in the form of buildings and extra curricular activities alongwith flexibility regarding medium of instruction.

(c) As per para 5.7 of National Policy on Education 1986, there is a provision of essential facilities in primary schools, including at least 2 reasonably large rooms that are useable in all weathers, and the necessary toys, black boards, maps charts and other leaning material. At least 2 teachers, as far as possible, one of them a woman should work in every primary school, the number increasing as early as possible to one teacher per class. The said policy also provided for education for women's equality, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, backward sections and areas, minorities and handicapped, vocationalisation and pace-setting schools.

In accordance with the National Policy on Education 1986 (Modified in 1992) a large number of interventions/varied schemes like Operation Black Board, Teacher Education, Non-formal